right of the people to get information has been affected.

News items captioned 'Basu Government May Sue Doordarshan'

2328. SHRI A- G. KULKARNI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE;
SHRI VISHWAS RAO
RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news item published in 'Sunday Observer' of 4th June, 1989 under the caption 'Basu Government may sue Doordarshan and if so, whether West Bengal as well Tamil Nadu Governments are voicing open criticism about Djoordar shan's partial attitude; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether Government propose to take steps to convince various State Governments and the people about the impartial use of Doordarshan in presenting news?

THE MINISTER Of STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A news item to this effect has come to the notice of the Government. In this news item, Doordarshan has been accused of partisan attitude because it has not telecast the advertisement of the West Bengal Government relating to the direct appeal for the donation to the Bakreswar Thermal Power Plant Fund. Similarly, Doordarshan has also refused to telecast an advertisement of Tamil Nadu Government relating to Co-optex Handlooms. The Government have already clarified to the West Bengal Government that such appeals are not in conformity with the established convention followed by the Media in this regard. Similarly, the Tamil Nadu Government has also been informed that the Co-optex Handlooms advertisement . could not be telecast as it contained a visual of the Chief Minister, Tamil Naau and as per the Code for Commercial Advertising, featuring of such dignitaries in the advertisements is violative of the Code.

The news bulletins of both AIR and Doordarshan are guided by 'News Policy for Broadcast Media As per these guidelines the only criterian to include any event in News Bulletins is its news worthiness. These guidelines are strictly followed by both the media.

Smuggling of sugar, kliaudsari and gur *to* neighbouring Countries

2329. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp increase in the smuggling of Sugar, Khandsari and Gur particularly to the neighbouring countries of Nepal and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, what is the estimated increase in the smuggling of sugar alongwith value thereof to Nepal and Bangladesh during the last six months;

(c) what are the areas from where sugar smuggling activities are being carried out;

(d) what measures have been taken by Government to check sugar smuggling; and

(e) to what extent the domestic prcies of sugar, Khandsari and Gur have increased as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF' STATE OF THE MINISTRY . OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Although there have been report especially after the expiry of the Indo-Nepal Treaty on Trade and Transit on 23rd March, 1989, about increase in smuggling of sugar, Khandsari and Gur from the border States to Nepal as also t*o* Bangladesh, available reports and seizure made do not

indicate smuggling of these comimodities on any significant scale.

(b) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, it is not feasible to estimate the extent of smuggling or increase or decrease in smuggling of sugar to Nepal and Bangladesh during the last six months.

(c) The areas adjacent to the Incto-Nepal border in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal are areas vulnerable from the smuggling angle. On the Indo-Bangladesh border, Nadia district in West Bengal is reportedly prone to smuggling activity,

(d) The State Governments of the border States have been asked to keep watch and take appropriate steps to prevent smuggling of these commodities. The Customs and Central Excise staff and the Border Security Force have also been alerted.

(e) The prices of sugar, Khandsarl and gur have been showing a rising tendency during the past few months but the extent of such price rise due to smuggling alone cannot be estimated.

Cashewnut production

2330. SHRI JAGADISH JANI Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to stete:

(a) the names of the cashewnut producing States;

(b) whether the- production *at* cashewnut has been steadily increasing in those State during the last few years;

(c) if so, the State-wise, cashewnut production during the last three years;

(d) whether there is a good scope in increase in areas under cashewnut production in Orissa and some other States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal, Pondicherry, Tripura, Goa are the main cashew nut producing States.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The production data collected from the dicerent States are given in the enclosed statement—I *(See* below).

(d) and (e) Yes. Sir. State-wise area considered for planting are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement—I

State-wise Production of Haw Cashewnut from 1985-86 *to* 1987-88

States	Production in MT		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
		1,30,900	1,34,000
		22,030	22,940
		29,070	31,860
		11,850	11,980
		11,310	12,090
		19,120	21,360
Orissa	16,880	18,560	. 22,320
West Bengal	2,318	2,440	3,404
Pondicherry	238	245	257
Tripura	49	51	50
TOTAL	2,34,475	2,45,576	2,60,261